

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/017897

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

 Int.C1⁷ C08F4/06, 12/16, 20/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

 Int.C1⁷ C08F12/00-12/36, 20/00-20/40

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI/L

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| A | JP 04-363306 A (Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd.), 16 December, 1992 (16.12.92), Full text & EP 0464408 B1 & US 5102966 A | 1-20 |
| A | JP 05-043615 A (Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd.), 23 February, 1993 (23.02.93), Full text (Family: none) | 1-20 |
| A | JP 11-029617 A (Nippon Soda Co., Ltd.), 02 February, 1999 (02.02.99), Full text (Family: none) | 1-20 |

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

 See patent family annex.

| | |
|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | "&" document member of the same patent family |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

 Date of the actual completion of the international search
 15 February, 2005 (15.02.05)

 Date of mailing of the international search report
 08 March, 2005 (08.03.05)

 Name and mailing address of the ISA/
 Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/017897

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| A | JP 2000-344836 A (Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.), 12 December, 2000 (12.12.00), Full text & EP 1038890 B1 & US 6414101 B1 | 1-20 |
| A | JP 2001-181352 A (KRI International, Inc.), 03 July, 2001 (03.07.01), Full text (Family: none) | 1-20 |
| A | JP 2002-226513 A (Nippon Soda Co., Ltd.), 14 August, 2002 (14.08.02), Full text (Family: none) | 1-20 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/017897

The subject matter of claims 16-20 involves all polymers which each has branches linked through a carbon-carbon bond and has a given molecular weight, etc. However, of the hyperbranched polymers claimed, those disclosed in the meaning of Article 5 of the PCT are limited to an extremely small part, i.e., the polymers of claims 1-15. The polymers claimed are not considered to be supported by the description in the meaning of Article 6 of the PCT.

Therefore, a search was made for the range which is disclosed in and supported by the description, i.e., the polymers of claims 1-15.